

Attorney Docket No. SOM920000009US1

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method of multi-stage creation of multimedia content, comprising the steps of:

a) ~~accessing incorporating multimedia assets into a framework as a series of related frames using a processor as an authoring tool to create a multimedia repository file of selected stored multimedia assets in a text based format;~~

b) creating a multimedia description file in a template for formatting multimedia assets content; and

c) combining the multimedia repository file of selected stored multimedia assets and the multimedia content description file in the template through a batch-processing program to create a multimedia repository file executable on a multimedia player; player;

storing the multimedia description file and the multimedia repository file as a single multimedia description/multimedia repository file on a storage device;

accessing the multimedia description/multimedia repository file by at least one authoring session manager for access to the multimedia assets, creation of a modified multimedia description file in a template, and creation of a modified multimedia repository file upon combination of the multimedia assets and the modified multimedia description file; and

for each authoring session manager, storing a modified multimedia description/multimedia repository file on a storage device associated with the authoring session manager, wherein the modified multimedia repository file is configured for execution on a multimedia player.

2. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of:

d) injecting other content into the multimedia content description file by another user.

3. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of:

e) creating an extensible markup language-based multimedia repository file.

4. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of:

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f) using a textual editor to create an extensible markup language-based multimedia repository file.

5. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of:

g) using an extensible markup language-based multimedia repository file as a data interchange among other multimedia content creation applications.

6. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of:

h) managing the creation of the template and the multimedia content description file in stages by different users.

7. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of:

i) operating ~~the a~~ processor in a batch mode to combine the multimedia repository file of selected stored multimedia assets and the multimedia content description file into a multimedia repository file executable on a multimedia player.

8. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein ~~the a~~ processor runs in a batch mode for combining the multimedia repository file of selected stored multimedia assets and the multimedia content description file.

9. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein the multimedia content description file is created in stages by different users injecting content into the template.

10. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 1 wherein the multimedia repository file is a multimedia container in a binary format.

11. (Currently amended) A system for multi-stage creation of editable multimedia content executable on a multimedia player, comprising:

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a) processor means for accessing incorporating multimedia assets into a framework as a series of related frames ~~using a processor as an authoring tool to create a multimedia repository file of selected stored multimedia assets in a text based format;~~

b) processor means for creating a multimedia description file in a template for formatting multimedia assets ~~content; and~~

c) processor means for combining the multimedia ~~repository file of selected stored~~ multimedia assets and the multimedia ~~content~~ description file in the template through a batch-processing program to create a multimedia repository file executable on a multimedia ~~player; player;~~

processor means for storing the multimedia description file and the multimedia repository file as a single multimedia description/multimedia repository file on a storage device;

processor means for accessing the multimedia description/multimedia repository file by at least one authoring session manager for access to the multimedia assets, creation of a modified multimedia description file in a template, and creation of a modified multimedia repository file upon combination of the multimedia assets and the modified multimedia description file; and

for each authoring session manager, processor means for storing a modified multimedia description/multimedia repository file on a storage device associated with the authoring session manager, wherein the modified multimedia repository file is configured for execution on a multimedia player.

12. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 11 further comprising:

d) means managing the creation of the template and the multimedia content description file in stages by different users.

13. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 11 further comprising:

e) means operating ~~the a~~ processor in a batch mode to combine the multimedia ~~repository file of selected stored~~ multimedia assets and the multimedia ~~content~~ description file into a multimedia repository file executable on a multimedia player.

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14. (Currently amended) A program medium executable in a computer system for multi-stage creation of multimedia content, comprising:

a) program code in a medium for accessing incorporating multimedia assets into a framework as a series of related frames using a processor as an authoring tool to create a multimedia repository file of selected stored multimedia assets in a text-based format;

b) program code in a medium for creating a multimedia description file in a template for formatting multimedia assets content; and

c) program code in a medium for combining the multimedia repository file of selected stored multimedia assets and the multimedia content description file in the template through a batch-processing program to create a multimedia repository file executable on a multimedia player; player;

program code in a medium for storing the multimedia description file and the multimedia repository file as a single multimedia description/multimedia repository file on a storage device;

program code in a medium for accessing the multimedia description/multimedia repository file by at least one authoring session manager for access to the multimedia assets, creation of a modified multimedia description file in a template, and creation of a modified multimedia repository file upon combination of the multimedia assets and the modified multimedia description file; and

for each authoring session manager, program code in a medium for storing a modified multimedia description/multimedia repository file on a storage device associated with the authoring session manager, wherein the modified multimedia repository file is configured for execution on a multimedia player.

d) injecting other content into the multimedia content description file by another user.

15. (Currently amended) The medium of Claim 14 further comprising:

e) program code creating an extensible markup language-based multimedia repository file.

16. (Currently amended) The medium of Claim 14 further comprising:

f) program code creating an extensible markup language-based multimedia repository file using a textual editor.

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17. (Currently amended) The medium of Claim 14 further comprising:

g) program code using an extensible markup language-based multimedia repository file as a data interchange among other multimedia creation applications.

18. (Currently amended) The medium of Claim 14 further comprising:

h) program code managing the creation of the template and multimedia content description file in stages by different users.

19. (Currently amended) The medium of Claim 14 further comprising:

i) program code operating the processor in a batch mode to combine the ~~template~~ multimedia assets and the multimedia content description file into a multimedia repository file executable on a multimedia player.

20. (Currently amended) The medium of Claim 14 further comprising:

j) program code running the processor in a batch mode for combining the multimedia repository ~~file of selected multimedia~~ assets and the multimedia content description file.